

# THE GLEICHEN CALL

VOLUME XXXIV

NO. 5

GLEICHEN, ALBERTA, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 1941

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## TOWN TAXES WILL BE FOUR MILLS LOWER THIS YEAR

The setting of the mill rate for taxation purposes occupied the attention of the members of the town council when they convened in a regular session last night. The mill rate was set at 29 for municipal, 17 for school, and 3 for social service, as against 32 for municipal 16 for school and 5 for social service in 1940.

The bill to law, on behalf of the town council, between the town and the Calgary Power Co., altering the terms of the existing franchise agreement as given final readings and passed. The by law replacing the truck licensing by law was also given final reading and passed.

A letter from the Board of Trade was received. The letter suggested that a public meeting be called to consider what should be done to put the town's water system in proper working order. It was the feeling of the council that this matter should be supported by a petition of the ratepayers and upon receipt of it they would be prepared to proceed with the plans for the removal of the system.

A petition was presented by Canadian Cafe and Lake Inn, requesting that a special committee be formed for the prevention of the water accumulation at the corner of Crawford St. and 6th Avenue, causing the flooding of this property. It was the opinion of the council that this be done in regard owing to the fact that the buildings in question were too low and should be raised. It was pointed out that the placing of a second culvert across Crawford St. would alleviate the trouble as the water would back up at the culvert on the highway.

A tender for the purchase of the Gleichen Hotel was received and it was not accepted.

A deposit of \$25 was made to the Salvation Army for rescue work. Mr. Dingman appeared before the council requesting that he be provided with a larger house as the one he was living in was too small for his family. This matter is to be investigated.

Constituents J. H. Wright tendered

their resignation to the Board of Trade.

At the end of the session a motion was carried to add a nominating committee for a nominator to fill the vacancy and April 21st was set for the closing date for nominations.

**CAPT. J. A. GRANT  
TELLS EXPERIENCE  
IN ERITERIA**

A few weeks ago you mentioned in The Call that I could give you a few lines on Aden and British Somaliland with the capital Berbera. I wish to say that I will do my best to do so. Eritrea, the Red Sea was written about. I passed through the Suez Canal in December 1898 and came back to Gibraltar in 1901. We came through the Suez Canal on the 17th day of March and the fishermen were earing the name of the Red Sea. We got off for a few hours at Port Said in Egypt to await orders.

The Boer War was still on and they were uncertain if we were to proceed home or not. We were ordered to land at Berbera, at Gibiltera, but all with two years over their time were to proceed home, which was very welcome news after five years in the Red Sea.

At that time, 45 years ago, we had 12 inch guns and howitzers, besides numbers of other calibers and camel batteries. At times there would be an engagement. But we were laid. In 1898 we transported 2000 camels from the Arabian side to Berbera. The motor truck was not heard of at that time so the camels were the only means of transport. There were mostly Somalies and Arabs. The Arabs do most of the work especially loading and unloading ships. At that time Aden was the port of entry for all ships of all nations coaled there. The P. & O. Steamship Company, Orient Company, North German Steamship Co. recorded there for Bombay, China, Australia, New Zealand and different parts. The goal had to be shipped in

from Great Britain and return loaded with salt. From there some trading steamers would not get back to England for years. The ships had to be a certain tonnage to get through the Suez which is high and 98 miles long with 1000 bridges are at work in all the time it takes.

Aden is a great naval base and Italian ships often came there from Massawa in Eritrea and I can say those were not friendly.

There was a great fire last night. Now with regard to water. We had our allowance each day carries drying it in sheep skin from the condensers, out of the sea, and by canals, which were as high as 100 feet. On the land from sand and rock was terrible, not a breath of wind.

There was hardly a day passed without a funeral and we buried our dead out in the sand as there was no twillight. It seems to get dark at the shortest notice. We had the baboon plague raging there for three years and the natives died by thousands. Nurses and doctors were busy constantly. We had to bury the dead without regard to the dead nor would they take them out of their huts till forced by the Camels. Battering. We were all vaccinated and most of us tattooed. Army men were not vaccinated or tattooed. There was a great chance of getting it if they took the plague. Glanders spread and up and then came the coma.

Djibouti is the most talked of town at present from now on with

its political power. It was the seat of the war. Abyssinia, as it was called until 1923, had a population of about 8,000,000 on 350,000 square miles and its southern extremity is only 25 miles from the equator one would expect it to be the hottest place in the country.

But nearly the whole of Ethiopia is mountainous, all the way from 4500 to 10,000 feet, so it is not valleys are hot. All the large wildebeest herds in Africa are to be found there.

The Indian weather prophets are

it is bright and early this season and this summer is going to be a dry one.

They base their claim on the fact that there is no abundance of rain for some years.

As time goes on we shall see if the Indians are correct.

The reason British Somaliland was given up to the Italians last year was because it was not worth the loss of it. It would not be worth the cost of getting it back.

With our stay in Aden and the Gals I saw and learned a lot. Mostly every human race on earth passed through Aden. The Red Sea was written about. I had to have three army certificates of education before I could take depression arm horizontal range finder course. The Red Sea is a great place to learn how to fish. Although when one has the knowledge of one class of heavy gun you can soon get onto working the others.

## THE WEEK IN EDMONTON

(By Dan E. Campbell)

Proportionate care Tuesday morning, April 15th, after the legislative assembly closed, was given to Aden. The Red Sea was written about. I passed through the Suez Canal in December 1898 and came back to Gibraltar in 1901. We came through the Suez Canal on the 17th day of March and the fishermen were earing the name of the Red Sea. When we got off for a few hours at Port Said in Egypt to await orders.

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## News Items of Local Interest

Miss Jean Black of Taber arrived in town last week to spend a week morning for a week's visit to relatives in Oklahoma.

Commodore Allen, the Queenstown auctioneer states that all the auction houses he has held recently have been a success.

Miss Esther Downey of High River is spending the week in town visiting her former school friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Thompson of Calgary spent Good Friday in town visiting the parents' parents Mr. and Mrs. Charles Thompson.

Fred Jones, who is located at Sebco, spent a day in town last week. Fred found the town looking just the same as ever.

Bert Boos and Frank Michael, who are with the air force in Melco took in the dance here Monday night.

The Gleichen F.W.A. held a whale drive at the Shamrock school, prizewinner went to Mr. Leslie Wilson, Mrs. Goodwin, Mrs. S. Hall and Mr. and Mrs. McMechan.

The evening was spent playing the piano.

A lovely summer was served by Mrs. McKeever and her helpers.

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The Gleichen branch of the U. F. W. A. held their regular meeting on April 10 in the home of Miss Goodwin.

The regular program included a special report on the heavy gun of the forces

and Major J. Stannard reported on

The Pain in the pit of Your

Stomach.

Miss Goodwin read a paper on Easter and Mrs. MacArthur sang.

The next meeting will be held

April 24th at the home of Mrs. Jack Wilson.

The heavy rain Saturday night

played havoc with the main highway.

A good example of the state of

the road was to be seen right in town when a heavily loaded truck, from Medicine Hat bound for Calgary, rear

wheel went to the chassis where it

immediately to survey road

in order to determine

where assistance was needed during the present building season.

Commenting on the current debt

situation in the province, Hon. L.

Maynard said prior to the end of

the session that the end of all other

financial failure in the province

will be called. This is provided by

legislation brought down at the session.

He said also that the provincial

government will carry its appeal

on the ruling of Mr. Justice O'Connor

of the Court of Appeal.

Ad ultra vires, to the Privy Council

and warred creditors that although they

might be able to take action against

the province, the bill was

open to question, should the province

be upheld their position would then

be awkward. He gave it as his opinion

that the judgement was not sound in

law, adding that if it were, then the

situation throughout Canada would be disastrous.

Any person convicted or interned

under the Defence of Canada Act

will be held without trial before any

municipal court in Alberta.

This is provided for in an amending

bill to the Municipal Districts Act

which passed recently. It was said

that the bill will be held

in the name of the province.

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## Bill's Boy was at Gibraltar...

...at least that's what his folks think... he went over with that hard-rock mining outfit in the engineers... seems like only yesterday he was a kid spending holidays here... now he's in the middle of the big fight. Well do our part too...

## WE MUST Keep on Buying WAR SAVINGS CERTIFICATES Regularly!

Remember—when Victory is won your dollars come back to you with compound interest. The more you save and lend, the better for Canada NOW—the better for you THEN.

Published by the War Savings Committee, Ottawa

## THE FREEDOM OF THE PRESS

Great men of history who have left us the legacy of democratic government all seem to have been of one mind, that the preservation of freedom depended on the freedom of the press, and the freedom of the press is the freedom of the press. That is why in all truly democratic states a free press is more than just a tradition—it is an essential principle of government.

One of the perniciousities of autocracy is the abrogation of the freedom of the press because this freedom has essentially, through the centuries, shown itself to be one great force which has seen to it that the truth is told and that justice is preserved. When freedom of the press is abolished, other freedoms go with it. There is little need at this time to stress that point. There are many examples of the true press, in the world today, of a subservient press, that it must be obvious to any intelligent person that the freedom of the press is synonymous with freedom, which is democracy.

There have always been those, who, often for reasons of personal aggrandizement or lust for power, would rob the press of this precious jewel in the crown of freedom. There have been others who cry out for personal freedom of expression, but who would deny this right to the press. It has been claimed, that this freedom of expression is a lie, that this is one of those half truths which unthinking people are likely to accept at face value.

Actually the press enjoys a freedom which gives it no privilege above the law, and it is as free as any man is bound by the laws of libel and slander. It certainly enjoys no greater opportunity for defending any person or institution, than does any other right of speech which any citizen is endowed with as a birthright. Abraham Lincoln, in a debate on the constitution once said: "The liberty of the press is the tyrant's scourge; it is the true friend and the surest guardian of the people." The principle of freedom of the press, as it exists today, is the result of a long and bitter struggle between those who believed in civil rights and constitutional rights, and those who sought the exercise of these rights.

It is significant that the first amendment to the Bill of Rights of the American Constitution, adopted in 1791, is one that relates to the freedom of the press. The amendment reads: "Congress shall make no law respecting the establishment of religion, or the prohibition of the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances." The very wording of amendment places freedom of the press on the same level, and of equal import with the freedom of religion, of speech, and of assembly.

Many other democratic countries have passed similar legislation, because from a wide study of the dangers of a subservient press, they have learned that a subservient press is the best insurance of a free country.

To be fully comprehended, the freedom of the press must be accepted by democratic peoples as a typical example of a privilege they enjoy as individuals in a democratic society. To abolish the freedom of the press, is to invite the abolition of all freedom for the individual.

Saturday afternoon about five o'clock the season's first dust storm struck the district followed a short time later by rain which developed into a fall of heavy wet snow and continued for several hours. Most of the snow melted as soon as it fell but about two inches was to be seen on the ground in the afternoon when it disappeared under the bright sunshine. This moisture was most welcome and the effect on the grass was immediate as a lot of it turned green during the day.

### FROM NURSERY TO NATION

Ten little countries feeling very fine, And so did Austria, then there were nine.

Nine little countries—who could know their fate?

Neville went to Munich, then there were eight;

Eight little countries praying hard to Heaven,

Poland answered, "No, Sir," then there were seven;

Seven little countries in a fearful fix Hitler went to Denmark, then there were six!

Six little countries sitting on a hive, Traitors in Norway, then there were five;

Five little countries all abhorring war, Luxembourg was easy, then there were four;

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Nine little countries—who could know their fate?

Neville went to Munich, then there were eight;

Eight little countries praying hard to Heaven,

Poland answered, "No, Sir," then there were seven;

Seven little countries in a fearful fix Hitler went to Denmark, then there were six!

Six little countries sitting on a hive, Traitors in Norway, then there were five;

Five little countries all abhorring war, Luxembourg was easy, then there were four;

Four little countries feeling very fine.

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